

## PICKENS HIGH

111 Blue Flame Drive  
Pickens, South Carolina 29671

**GRADES** 9-12 High School

**ENROLLMENT** 1,313 Students

**PRINCIPAL** Marion Lawson 864-878-8730

**SUPERINTENDENT** Dr. Mendel Stewart 864-855-8150

**BOARD CHAIR** Mr. Dan Sharpe 864-878-3847

## THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

### ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

# 2003

#### ABSOLUTE RATING:

**EXCELLENT**

Absolute Ratings of High Schools with Students like Ours

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	Unsatisfactory
20	10	1	0	0

#### IMPROVEMENT RATING:

**GOOD**

#### ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS:

**N/A**

#### SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WEBSITES AT:**

**[WWW.MYSCSCHOOLS.COM](http://WWW.MYSCSCHOOLS.COM)**

**[WWW.SCEOC.ORG](http://WWW.SCEOC.ORG)**

**PERFORMANCE TRENDS OVER 4-YEAR PERIOD**

	Absolute Rating	Improvement Rating	Adequate Yearly Progress
2001	Good	Excellent	N/A
2002	Excellent	Good	N/A
2003	Excellent	Good	N/A
2004			

**TENTH GRADE PASSAGE OF ONE OR MORE SUBTESTS OF THE EXIT EXAM**

	Our School			High Schools with Students Like Ours		
Percent	2001	2002	2003	2001	2002	2003
Passed all 3 subtests	79.5	84.9	72.8	76.0	75.1	74.6
Passed 2 subtests	12.1	10.8	15.4	13.6	14.9	14.9
Passed 1 subtest	6.4	2.5	10.0	6.7	6.5	6.6
Passed no subtests	2.0	1.8	1.8	3.6	3.5	3.3

**PERFORMANCE BY STUDENT GROUPS**

	Exit Exam Passage Rate by Spring 2003		Eligibility for LIFE Scholarships*		Graduation Rate	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>All Students</b>	277	97.8	248	13.3	276	85.5
<b>Gender</b>						
Male	142	97.2	123	13.0	144	81.9
Female	135	98.5	125	13.6	132	89.4
<b>Race or Ethnic Group</b>						
African American	10	90.0	10	0.0	12	83.3
Hispanic	2	I/S	3	I/S	2	I/S
White	265	98.1	235	14.0	262	85.9
Other	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A
<b>Disability Status</b>						
Non-speech disabilities	23	87.0	0	N/A	29	99.0
Students without disabilities	254	98.8	248	13.3	247	82.2
<b>Migrant Status</b>						
Migrant	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A
Non-migrant	5	80.0	248	13.3	0	N/A
<b>English Proficiency</b>						
Limited English proficient	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A
Non-LEP	277	97.8	248	13.3	276	85.5
<b>Lunch Status</b>						
Subsidized meals	30	100.0	38	5.3	42	90.5
Full-pay meals	246	97.6	210	14.8	234	84.6

n = number of students on which percentage is calculated

**ELIGIBILITY FOR LIFE SCHOLARSHIPS**

Percent of	Our School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
Seniors eligible for LIFE Scholarships at four-year institutions*	13.3	21.7
Seniors who met the SAT requirement	13.3	22.5
Seniors who met the grade point average	57.3	58.2

\*Using only the SAT and grade point average requirements

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	High Schools with Students Like Ours	Median High School
Students (n= 1,313)				
Retention rate	4.5%	Down from 8.8%	7.4%	7.3%
Attendance rate	94.7%	Up from 94.6%	95.7%	95.5%
Eligible for gifted and talented	8.8%	Up from 7.3%	10.9%	5.1%
With disabilities other than speech	11.5%	Up from 10.2%	11.2%	12.2%
Older than usual for grade	6.6%	Down from 7.3%	7.8%	10.1%
Suspended or expelled	0.9%	Up from 0.7%	2.2%	2.3%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	16.1%	N/A	N/A	10.2%
Successful on AP/IB exams	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Annual dropout rate	6.5%	Up from 5.0%	2.9%	2.7%
Career/technology students in co-curricular organizations	0.0%	No change	1.5%	3.2%
Enrollment in career/technology center courses	692	Up from 573	623	433
Students participating in worked-based experiences	30.3%	Down from 100.0%	26.2%	26.3%
Career/technology students mastering core competencies	76.4%	Down from 76.8%	74.7%	74.9%
Career/technology completers placed	100.0%	No change	100.0%	99.5%

Teachers (n= 69)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	53.6%	Up from 50.7%	57.9%	51.7%
Continuing contract teachers	95.7%	Up from 85.5%	84.3%	81.8%
Highly qualified teachers	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Teachers returning from previous year	89.0%	Up from 87.6%	87.7%	85.1%
Teacher attendance rate	95.3%	Down from 95.7%	95.7%	95.8%
Average teacher salary	\$40,881	Up 1.4%	\$41,164	\$40,303
Prof. development days/teacher	11.0 days	Down from 12.5 days	9.9 days	10.3 days

School				
Principal's years at school	3.0	Up from 2.0	3.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio	26.6 to 1	Down from 27.9 to 1	28.3 to 1	26.2 to 1
Prime instructional time	89.2%	No change	91.1%	90.1%
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$5,420	Up 3.0%	\$5,648	\$6,279
Percent spent on teacher salaries*	54.8%	Up from 54.4%	59.2%	57.8%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No change	Excellent	Excellent
Parents attending conferences	87.5%	Up from 83.5%	86.5%	87.8%
SACS accreditation	yes	N/A	yes	yes

\* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

	Our District	State
Highly qualified teachers in low poverty schools	N/A	N/A
Highly qualified teachers in high poverty schools	N/A	N/A

Abbreviations for Missing Data							
N/A	Not Applicable	N/C	Not Collected	N/R	Not Reported	I/S	Insufficient Sample

**REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL**

During the 2002-2003 school year, Pickens High School's quest for excellence continued. Our students excelled in academics, athletics, the arts, and extra-curricular activities. Our faculty and staff worked hard to provide quality programs that enrich the educational experience for each student. Our administration was diligent in making available an inviting, safe facility which encouraged everyone at Pickens High to go above and beyond. Our community was persistent in its support of our endeavor to produce graduates who become responsible and productive world citizens.

We proudly presented 240 diplomas to members of the Class of 2003, the largest class in recent history. Over 78% of the graduating class indicated plans to pursue post-secondary training at two-year or four-year institutions. This group of young people was awarded over \$3,000,000 dollars in scholarships to help them continue their education.

Over the past year, sporting events continued to draw our community together. The Lady Blue Flame Volleyball team brought home the state AAA title for the third time in a row. Regional playoffs in baseball, basketball, football, soccer, and softball kept the Blue Flame burning brightly after regular seasons ended. Our Army JROTC battalion had a spectacular formal inspection, earning 993 of 1000 possible points. The PHS fine arts department offered several productions for the community to enjoy. Our band brought home the highest honor ever awarded in the history of Pickens High. Revived by both student and sponsor enthusiasm, our PHS Student Council once again began to promote civic awareness among our students with such activities as registering voters and supporting various charitable organizations. Through our other on-campus organizations, our students continue to uphold PHS's reputation as a National Service Learning Leader School and a Flagship School of Promise. Over 300 members in our Fellowship of Christian Athletes attested to the fact that our students are developing in mind, body, and spirit.

Motivated by our affiliation with SREB and led by a supportive administrative team, our faculty focused on curriculum this year. Each department began its work to ensure that our courses are aligned with national and state learner standards and that they meet all our students' needs. Subject areas have begun an ongoing, systematic approach to develop unit plans for each course. Our students faced several state-mandated assessments as the Basic Skills Assessment Program EXIT exam was phased out and the South Carolina High School Assessment Program was phased in. Results of these assessments, in conjunction with formal and informal classroom measurements, will help us to design a total school program

**EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS, STUDENTS, AND PARENTS**

Improvement.

Marion Lawson, Principal

	Teachers	Students	Parents
<b>Number of surveys returned</b>	74	274	60
<b>Percent satisfied with learning environment</b>	95.8%	75.6%	75.0%
<b>Percent satisfied with social and physical environment</b>	91.7%	78.4%	69.5%

**DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS**

- Excellent - School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Good - School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Average - School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Below Average - School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Unsatisfactory - School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal

**DEFINITION OF ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS**

As required by the United States Department of Education, adequate yearly progress specified that the statewide target is met for all students and for each subgroup of students: racial/ethnic, economic, disability, limited English proficiency and migrant status.